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Remarks.

The Examiner's comments and objections and the cited references have been carefully considered by the Applicant.

Reconsideration of the application as hereby amended is respectfully requested.

The amended claims set forth a combination of features that are new and non-obvious over the prior art of record.

In particular Sugiyama *et al.* (EP 0 677 434) fail to disclose deposited reflective layers with thickness lower than 48nm adapted to yield a current of 3.5 A on application of a voltage of 12-13 V.

It will be in fact noted that the layer of Sugiyama *et al.*, in order to yield a current lower than 3.5 A at 12 V, has to provide layers with a thickness in the range of 100 nm (0.01 micron) or higher.

For thickness lower than 100nm, such as 50nm, a current of 4 A or higher is disclosed as achievable only.

Furthermore, in none of the cited documents VAD reflective layers with the features set forth in the presently pending claims are ever taught or suggested.

With deposition layers, as claimed, it is possible to advantageously provide high quality, high- efficiency and low cost heated mirrors that meet security standards requiring currents lower than 3.5 A at heating voltages of 12-13 V.

Applicant therefore submits that the subject matter of the presently pending claims is patentable over the known prior art, which does not disclose or fairly suggest to a person having ordinary skill in the art to provide the technical features that are claimed in combination in the newly submitted claims.

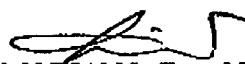
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Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

It will be noted that a sincere effort has been made to positively respond to all of the points raised by the Examiner.

While it is believed that the amended claims properly and clearly define the present invention, applicant would be open to any suggestion or amendment the Examiner may have or propose concerning different claim phraseology which, in the Examiner's opinion, more accurately defines the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,


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